XI. Non-sequential and delayed supply of fabricated equipment.

XII. Teething troubles due to mal functioning of equipment.

XIII. Selecting of unproven technology.

XIV. Difficult geology at the project site.

XV. Poor project management practices.

According to the analysis carried out in the DPI in respect of the Central Projects indicates the following major causes of Cost escalation.

I. Change in statutory duties like excise, customs, salestax etc.

II. Variation in foreign exchange rates.

III. Higher cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures.

IV. Higher cost of land acquisition due to higher compensation demanded by land owners.

V. Change in the scope of project.

VI. Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain disturbed areas.

VII. Under estimation of original cost estimate and

VIII. General price rise.

Statement II

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of projects

(i) Two-stage project approval to ensur adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.

(ii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels this enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help management in taking remedial measures.

(iii) Indepth critical review of progress by project authorities and Administrative Ministries.

(iv) Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Close follow up by the Department of Progamme Implementation, concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministrial coordination and interaction.

(vii) Emphasis on preparation of realistic project implementation plan.

(viii) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.

Three-pronged strategy for poverty alleviation

1213. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been following a three-pronged strategy for poverty alleviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how far it has been successful in achieving the desired objectives; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make them more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PORGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The three-pronged attach on poverty consists of (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and asset-building for the poor.

(c) The incidence of poverty in 1987-88 was 25.49 per cent based on the data from Household Consumer Expenditure Survey in the 43rd round of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Data from Household Consumer Expenditure Survey in the 50th round of NSSO are being processed.

(d) The poverty alleviation programmes are reviewed from time to time to assess the strength and weaknesses of the programmes for taking corrective action. In a recent Conference of Chief Ministers on basic minimum services, called by the Prime Minister, it was agreed that in the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the areas of urban and rural poverty alleviation and employment, the states would be given greater involvement, freedom and flexibility. The Conference also recommended adequate devolution of powers, authority and funds to the three-tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). This would strengthen in their effort at formulating, planning and executing programmes of economic development and social justice.

गुजरात के लिए अनुदान

1214. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) 1995-96 के वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए गुजरात सरकार को कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत की गई है;

(ख) कुल अनुदान में से गुजरात के सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्रों के लिए कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की गई है;

(ग) क्या राज्य सरकार ने योजना आयोग से सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्र के लिए अतिरिक्त अनुदान स्वीकृत करने का आग्रह किया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेंद्र के० मलघ): (क) योजना आयोग द्वारा गुजरात राज्य के लिए वार्षिक योजना 1995-96 हेतु 2610 करोड़ रुपये की राशि अनुमोदित की गयी थी।

(ख) 2610 करोड़ रुपये के कुल योजना परिव्यय में से जिला स्तर की योजनाओं हेतु 858.77 करोड़ रु० का परिव्यय उपलब्ध कराया गया। इसमें से 197.80 करोड़ रुपये क्रमाश: सौराष्ट्र व कच्छ जिलों को उपलब्ध कराए गए।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न हीं उठता।

Leave Travel concession to Central Government Employees

1215. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Government employee is entitled to avail Leave Travel Concession alongwith the spouse and children once in a span of two years; and

(b) whether in case of both husband and wife being Central Government employees and having declared separate home towns the wife is not entitled to avail LTC to her husbands home town as spouse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the existing provisions, where husband and wife both are Government Servants, they could, at their option, choose to declare separate home town and both of them may claim the concession separately under normal provisions of Central Civil Services (Leave Travel Concession) Rules in respect of members of their respective families, subject to the condition that if the husband or wife avails the facility as a member of the family of the other, he or she will not be entitled for claiming the concession for self independently. Similarly, the children shall be eligible for the benefit in one particular block as members of the family of one of the parents only.

Safe and adequate drinking water to Urban Poor

1216. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDER JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of urban poor who have no facilities of safe and adequate drinking water;

(b) what steps are being taken to provide these facilities; and

(c) by when the plan to provide water to all urban poor would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND